

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
Governor
JOSHUA F. TENORIO
Lieutenant Governor

790 Gov. Carlos G. Camacho Rd. Tamuning, Guam 96913 TEL: (671) 647-5330 FAX: (671) 649-6948 THERESA C. ARRIOLA
Director
CARISSA E. PANGELINAN
Deputy Director

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - April 1, 2019

Tamuning, Guam

Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center (GBHWC) is pleased to announce the launch of **Project Tulaika**. The project provides healthy transition services for youth and young adults ages 16-25 with a Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED) or Serious Mental Illness (SMI).

Data within the last two years has shown particularly high rates of suicide and homelessness for individuals within this age range, with a majority of them being of Chamorro descent or originating from the Freely Associated States.

Project Tulaika aims to make a significant CHANGE to this trend by increasing access to effective behavioral health interventions and supports, and by raising awareness, enhancing screening and detection, expanding outreach and engagement, and improving the coordination of care for these individuals.

Project Tulaika's services include intake assessment, orientation, CareCoordination/Wraparound, individual, family, or group counseling, as well as home-based services for youth and young adults ages 16-25 who have been determined to have an emotional, behavioral, or mental disorder diagnosable under DSM-V or its ICD-9-CM equivalents.

GBHWC has partnered with the Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) to provide the above services in the Northern (Dededo) and Southern (Inarajan) Community Health Centers. Additionally, GBHWC and DPHSS have created a more streamlined referral process for DPHSS clients of all ages who come into the centers for their primary healthcare appointments who may also need behavioral health services.

Project Tulaika hours of operations are follows:

## **Guam Behavioral Health & Wellness Center**

790 Governor Carlos G. Camacho Road Suite 280, Tamuning, GU 96913 Monday – Friday 8:00AM – 5:00PM (Except Holidays) (671) 647-5317

## **DPHSS**

**Dededo Community Health Center** 520 W. Santa Monica Avenue Dededo, GU 96929 Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 9:00AM – 3:00PM

Inarajan Community Health Center 162 Apman Drive Inarajan, GU 96917 Tuesday and Friday 9:00AM – 3:00PM For more information regarding Project Tulaika, please contact Helen Onedera, Project Director at 647-5317 or Carissa Pangelinan, GBHWC Deputy Director at 647-1901.

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